



THE EAGLE



LOCAL 1103

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April 2010

CWA District 1 Leadership Conference



Board Members pay tribute to Staff Representative Rick Martini who is retiring after 41 years of service to CWA.

The District One Leadership conference was held March 2 to March 4 in New Jersey. The conference was attended by delegates from Local 1103 and included delegates from many northeastern states and sectors. As soon as we arrived, the delegates from Local 1103 attended Bargaining unit sector meetings that included Public Sector, Health Care and Manufacturing, Verizon and AT&T. Each Business Agent was assigned different meetings according to their various responsibilities in order to get the most out of the conference. After these meetings concluded, we attended seminars that included modern technology, unemployment laws, OSHA and

safety, New Developments in the CWA Human Rights Program, and HealthCare reform.

The opening plenary session began the next morning with a State of the District report by District One Vice President Chris Shelton. Chris also shared the details of the National's "Ready for the Future CWA Strategic Plan- Getting Stronger Together." Chris continued and spoke about the brewing situation in New Jersey and the recent election of Chris Christie and his promised attacks on state workers including those belonging to CWA. Governor Christie has pledged to gut union

continued on page 3

**CWA DIST. 1
Conference**



..... pg. 1 & 3

**BUY UNION
MADE**



..... pg. 5

**Retiree's
Corner**

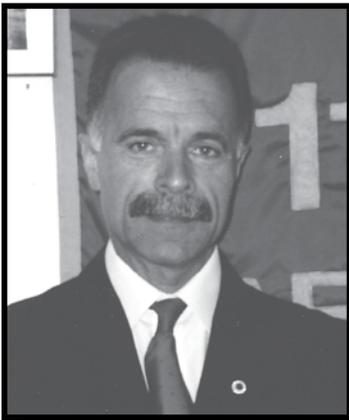


..... pg. 6

**1103
Scholarship
Program .. pg. 7**



In My View . . .



This month I will dedicate my article to Rick Martini. Rick has been our CWA National Staff Rep from 15 years

as well as Locals 1107 and 1120. He has 40 plus years in CWA and has fought tirelessly for the Men and Women of our great union.

He served on many committees, such as the Employee Placement Team, Absence Control, Plant Subcommittee as well as Verizon Bargaining. He was also the President of the CWA Staff Union. As busy as Rick was, he always would take your call and offer his help.

When I was a Business Agent, I remember Rick was involved in a grievance that I pursued against New York Telephone for violation our Storekeepers in 1103. With Rick's help, our issue became a Statewide Issue that ended up with New York Tel. hiring 148 permanent Storekeepers statewide.

Another fight that was won with Rick's help was when 1103 and the Southboro Warehouse Local 1395 jointly waged a successful fight against the Company for closing down the warehouse. Hundreds of jobs were saved as a result.

Rick worked very hard on the 2008 political campaign and spent months away from home because he believed in the same "change" that we all believed in.

His contributions were many and these were just a tiny sample of all the good that Our Dear Friend Rick has accomplished to make our UNION STRONG! May he find happiness in his retirement though he will surely be missed!

**Joseph A. Barca, Jr.
President**



THE EAGLE

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District One Leadership Conference ... continued from front page

contracts and layoff union members in an effort to bring his state budget into balance while cutting taxes for those making over \$400,000.00 a year. He has plans to cut school funding which will increase the size of classrooms by forcing Teachers and Para-professionals out of work. Shelton also spoke about the ongoing AT&T contract negotiations across

for many years, and has been our advocate during contract negotiations, third step grievances, arbitration cases and other types of hearings. He was available 24 hours a day 7 days a week to answer a question, advise on a situation or contractual interpretation, or just shoot the breeze. His name is on numerous agreements in many different con-

phone on.

The following day, CWA President Larry Cohen spoke about the issues related to unions at the national level. He spoke about the Herculean efforts by District One as it related to Healthcare reform and was thankful for the thousands of phone calls, emails and letters that were generated to congress on CWA's behalf. He thanked District One for all the political pressure and success in getting a majority of the representatives to support reform,



Left: Business Agent John Gentile, Vice President Kevin Sheil, Business Agents Mark Crumm and Kevin Scrobola attend evening ceremony to honor Rick Martini.

the country, including neighboring Connecticut, and specifically, CWA Local 1298. Our Brothers and Sisters in Local 1298 have been working without a contract for close to year. CWA Local 1103 has supported their efforts by attending their rallies and political events and we will continue to do so until they receive the just contract they deserve. Shelton also spoke about the state of Verizon. He talked about the unjust layoffs and the continuing disregard for the contract and also how AT&T bargaining is connected to Verizon.

During the evening, the delegation attended an event for our very own District One Staff Representative, Rick Martini; who earlier had announced his retirement from CWA. Rick has served CWA and the Members of CWA Local 1103

tracts which have benefited all of our Members. He is a true union activist. His work, knowledge, and dedication are second to none. He will be missed by every Member of CWA Local 1103. He has earned his retirement and we all wished him well, but we asked him to leave his



District One Vice President Chris Shelton speaking about Health Care Reform.



Business Agent John Gentile thanks Staff Representative Rick Martini for his dedication to the Union.

and how he believed based on independent reports that if passed, private companies would save close to \$3,000.00 per policy plan which could ultimately help bargaining.

The Conference ended with a rousing closing speech by Chris Shelton and the Local 1103 delegation left with a renewed spirit and determination to continue doing what we all do every day; and that is fight as hard as we possibly can to make sure every Member continues to be gainfully employed.

**Kevin Sheil
Vice President**

COPE: CAUSES NOT CANDIDATES

Until there is real campaign finance reform, special interest groups will influence government on both the local and national levels through a maze of campaign donations. If the law was changed and political figures were allowed to take only a reasonable finite dollar amount to run a campaign then we might actually achieve a fair access system to our governmental figures. Yet, until that day comes, Union Workers will be in a lopsided competition to have their voices heard and needs addressed.

A significant part of this problem is that a very few happen to be the largest donators to a flawed system. Compounding this issue is that these few tend to band their wealth together to push an agenda that is in direct opposition to Union Workers. Even if every Local Union in the country joined forces we could never match the hundreds of millions of dollars that corporate America floods into Washington each year. Yet, in spite of this we cannot afford to ignore the role that money plays in the battle to improve benefits, wages and our quality of life.

CWA-COPE is the political action committee for the 700,000 working men and women of CWA. It is through this fund that the Union educates not only the membership, but also elected officials on the issues that are important to voting working union families. Yes, through COPE the Union does endorse candidates, however; these candidates are less important than the causes we look to promote.

In retrospect, like our opponents in corporate America we do not always agree with 100% of everything our elected officials do or say; yet, we do understand that influence and access takes money.

Without a doubt access and influence as we go forward will be more important than ever. For our municipal workers it is the drum beat of Cut, Cut, Cut to their wages and benefits from the mayors and selectmen in these financially difficult times. For our Telecom workers it's Sell, Sell, Sell as Verizon looks to unload more of its legacy plant across the country. So how do we hope to sway those in power to support the many versus the wealthy few? Well, for the price of a cup of coffee, a COPE donation of \$2 a week we can take our fight for a worker friendly America across the spectrum of governmental process. From the local town council to the capital building in Washington, we will educate, publicize and elect those who support our efforts and remove those who stand in our way. Because COPE is about the causes that make our life better and not the candidates or parties they serve.

*It is important to note that CWA Local 1103 can direct a percentage of the local's membership COPE donations to local campaigns. In the 2009 elections, 1103 supported and endorsed Republican Terrence Murphy for Yorktown Council member, Democrat Adam Bradley for White Plains Mayor and Independent Ronald Mangeri for Beekman Council member. Each won their respective elections.



UNION-MADE-in-the-USA Cars, Trucks and SUVs

SUPPORT UNION JOBS

A guide to 2010 cars, trucks, SUVs and vans made by union members in the U.S. and Canada

UAW cars

Buick Lacrosse
Buick Lucerne
Cadillac CTS
Cadillac DTS
Cadillac STS
Chevrolet Cobalt
Chevrolet Corvette
Chevrolet Cruze
Chevrolet Malibu
Chrysler Sebring
Dodge Avenger
Dodge Caliber
Dodge Viper
Ford Focus
Ford Mustang
Ford Taurus
Lincoln MKS
Mazda6
Mitsubishi Eclipse
Mitsubishi Galant
Pontiac G6
Pontiac Vibe
Saturn Aura
Toyota Corolla*

UAW trucks

Chevrolet Colorado
Chevrolet Silverado**
Dodge Dakota
Dodge Ram Pickup*
Ford F Series
Ford Ranger
GMC Canyon
GMC Sierra**
Mazda B-series
Toyota Tacoma*

UAW vans

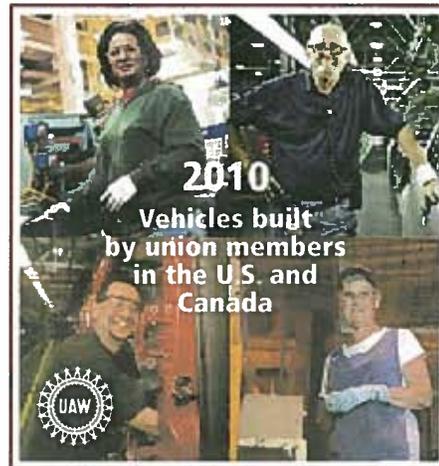
Chevrolet Express
Ford Econoline
GMC Savana

UAW SUVs/CUVs

Buick Enclave
Cadillac Escalade ESV
Cadillac Escalade/Hybrid
Chevrolet Suburban
Chevrolet Traverse
Dodge Nitro
Ford Escape/Hybrid
Ford Expedition
Ford Explorer
Ford Explorer Sport Trac
GMC Acadia
GMC Tahoe/Hybrid
GMC Yukon/Hybrid
GMC Yukon XL
H2 Hummer
H3 Hummer
Jeep Commander
Jeep Compass
Jeep Grand Cherokee
Jeep Liberty
Jeep Patriot
Jeep Wrangler
Lincoln Navigator
Mazda Tribute/Hybrid
Mercury Mariner/Hybrid
Mercury Mountaineer
Mitsubishi Endeavor
Saturn Outlook

UAW/CAW vans

Chrysler Town & Country
Dodge Grand Caravan
Volkswagen Routan



CAW cars

Chevrolet Camaro
Chevrolet Impala
Chrysler 300
Dodge Challenger
Dodge Charger
Ford Crown Victoria
Lincoln Town Car
Mercury Grand Marquis

CAW SUVs/CUVs

Chevrolet Equinox
Ford Edge
Ford Flex
GMC Terrain
Lincoln MKT
Lincoln MKX
Pontiac Torrent

All these vehicles are made in the United States or Canada by members of the United Auto Workers and Canadian Auto Workers (CAW).

Because of the integration of U.S. and Canadian vehicle production, all these vehicles include significant UAW-made content and support the jobs of UAW members.

However, those marked with an asterisk (*) are produced in the United States and another country. The light-duty (LD) crew cab versions of the vehicles marked with a double asterisk (**) are manufactured only in Mexico; other models are made in the United States. When purchasing one of these models, check the Vehicle Identification

Number (VIN). A VIN beginning with "1," "4" or "5" identifies a U.S.-made vehicle; "2" identifies a Canadian-made vehicle.

Not all vehicles made in the United States or Canada are built by union-represented workers. Vehicles not listed here, even if produced in the United States or Canada, are not union-made.



Retiree's Corner

Greetings Fellow Retirees:

Recently on a visit to the 1103 hall on RMC business I was looking for some supplies and came across a stack of old newsletters that the Local published as The Guardian back in the 90's. I was thumbing through them and started reading the Retiree articles that **Tommy Wonsor**, the founding member of the retirees club wrote for the newsletter. What a history lesson!

I have always believed that to know where you are headed - you must know where you've been.

A common theme from these articles was that he was always asking for volunteers to step up and assist with some of the duties that were entailed in running this organization. From what I could tell from the issues I had, Tommy attended most if not all of the shareholders meetings that were held by BA or Nynex and ATT or Lucent. He collected the proxies from our active and retired members to deliver to the meetings. He ran the lottery, which was the largest fund raiser for the chapter single handedly. The Christmas Luncheon was always a well attended function. What was amazing to me was that this was all done with a cost of \$5 yearly dues and lottery ticket sales ran only 4 times a year. Times and the economy have certainly changed!

Then, as now, Local1103 was always very supportive of the retirees providing not only the hall for meetings and mailings but also buses to attend the shareholders meetings which were held in the Tri-State area until they gained a wider footprint and started having meetings as far away as Texas and Nebraska.

I have some fond memories of Tommy and I am hoping many of you the members do too. So in that spirit, we would like to hear from any of you who might have a story or two about Tommy to share. These stories will be published in a future newsletter and of course on the new RMC website.

Please send those memories send to me at: JSpoor@cwa1103.org or to my attention at the hall.

R.M.C. WEBSITE LAUNCHED !

We are very pleased to announce our new CWA Local 1103 Retired Members' Chapter website.

<http://www.cwalocal1103rmc.org/>

It will be a work in progress but hopefully will prove to be a valuable resource for all our 1103 retirees. Our goal is simple - to provide valuable information in an easy to use format with little or no cost to our members. The website will have links to organizations which are beneficial to our members as well as to Local 1103's website. We want to give a shout out to **Carol Finley**, an RMC associate member, who has provided invaluable assistance in building this website. Carol has graciously offered to have future workshops for those of our members who are not currently online now but would like to be.

In Solidarity,
Jeanette Spoor, President, CWA 1103 RMC
jspoor@cwa1103.org

RMC MEMBERSHIP DUES for 2010

still ONLY

\$20 per year or \$55 for three years.

Associates pay only \$10.

The LOTTERY began January 1st.

The annual donation for the lottery is \$30.

Please contact Ed to order your packet.

Ed Christensen

27 Friendship Lane, Milan, NY 12571

Christensen@cwa1103.org

Make checks payable to "CWA 1103 RMC"

National Retired Members Council

Retired Members Council Website:

<http://www.cwa-union.org/rmc/>

CWA Retired Members' Council

501 3rd St NW

Washington, DC 20001

\$25. one time fee

2010 Local 1103 Scholarship Program

We are proud to announce the opening of our 37th Annual Local 1103 Scholarship Program. Since its inception in 1973, \$203,751.00 in cash grants have been awarded to the sons and daughters of Local 1103 Members in good standing to help enable the continuance of their education. The eight scholarships offered are as follows:



21st Annual E. Gerald Horgan Memorial Scholarship \$2,000.00

Honoring the memory of our late Brother and Chief Steward; Edward "Gerry" Horgan who made the supreme sacrifice on the picket line fighting for us.

32nd Annual Daniel L. Keenan Memorial Scholarship \$2,000.00

Respecting the memory of our late President, who served in that office from 1964 to 1979.

37th Annual Eugene J. Mays Memorial Scholarship \$1,500.00

In remembrance of our late District One A.V.P., who served as Defense Fund Director during the 1971-72 N.Y. Telephone strike.

27th Annual Howard T. Miles Memorial Scholarship \$1,500.00

In tribute to our late Brother who helped found the Local 1103 Substance Abuse Committee.

Local 1103 Executive Board Scholarships \$1,000.00

Two additional \$1000 scholarships authorized by the members of your Executive Board.

Thomas J. Wonsor Memorial Scholarships - \$500

Two \$500 awards are presented by the Local in memory of the 1103 Life Members Club first President Tom Wonsor. These two scholarships awards are only for students currently in their 1st, 2nd or 3rd year of college and who will be continuing on.

PURPOSE

These grants are intended to give those first-year college students an extra helping hand during those crucial first months in a new academic world. There are no restrictions upon expenditure. The money may be applied toward tuition, books, clothing, or whatever else best helps the student to embark upon his/her academic new life.

ELIGIBILITY

All high school seniors who are the son or daughter of a Member, retired Member or deceased Member in good standing of Local 1103 and who are proceeding to an institution of higher academic or professional training.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Complete and return the Scholarship application below to Local 1103 Headquarters on or before May 31, 2010.

METHOD OF SELECTION

The eight winners will be determined by random drawing at the June 2010 General Membership meeting. The checks will be presented to the Scholarship winners at Local 1103's Annual Picnic June 2010 at Ridge Road Park in Hartsdale, New York. We wish everyone good luck in the drawings and hope you all do well in your scholastic endeavors.

DOUGLAS SHEAHAN,
Secretary/Treasurer

C.W.A. LOCAL 1103 - 2010 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

(Please Print)

Applicant's Name _____

Address _____

Local Member's Name _____

Soc. Sec. # _____ Job Title *(if active Member)* _____

Work Location *(if active Member)* _____

I herewith apply for inclusion in the June 2010 drawing of the **Local 1103 Scholarship Program**. I certify that I meet the eligibility requirements set forth by the Local Executive Board as follows: I am the _____ son _____ daughter of a Member, retired Member or deceased Member in good standing of Local 1103 and either:

(1) A High School senior intending to continue my education at _____ ;
or (2) A college Student entering my _____ year at _____ **(Please Note: If your son or daughter is a 1st, 2nd or 3rd year college student and is applying for one of the Thomas J. Wonsor Memorial Scholarship awards. A transcript of last semester's grades must be attached to confirm eligibility.)**

Applicant's Signature: _____

(Scholarship applications must be returned to Local 1103 headquarters no later that May 31, 2010.)

Have a Drug,
Alcohol or
Gambling Problem ?

Call
Headquarters
939-8203 or 8204

Ask to be put in
contact with
Tom O'Halloran



All Information
is Confidential



COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA - LOCAL 1103

(AFFILIATED WITH A.F.L.-C.I.O.-C.L.C.)

345 WESTCHESTER AVENUE • PORT CHESTER, NY 10573

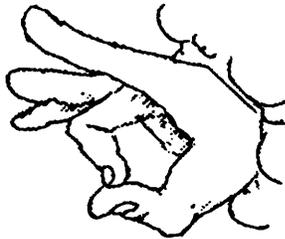


PERIODICAL

If It's Thursday . . .

THEN YOU MUST BE WEARING RED

IF NOT...



IT'S TIME FOR
A WAKE UP CALL!



Bargaining a Contract is Never Over.
It is Always an Ongoing Process Between Agreements.
Show Your Solidarity Every THURSDAY!